

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3668

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TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, XF, JA, CV, TP

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS,
MIDDLE EAST PEACEKEEPING, AND SECURITY COUNCIL WORK AREA

REF: USUN 3645 USUN 3655, USUN 3571, USUN 3606,
AND USUN 3632

1. WE WERE INFORMED LATE AUGUST 14 THAT SECURITY
COUNCIL PRESIDENT SAITO HAS SCHEDULED INFORMAL SC
CONSULTATIONS FOR 11 A.M. AUGUST 15. WOULD APPRECIATE
GUIDANCE ON THE THREE SUBJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED.

2. ONE SUBJECT WOULD BE NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS
(USUN 3645 AND 3655). WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO REACH
JAPANESE MISSION OFFICERS TO ASK WHY SC PRESIDENT HAS
DECIDED NO TO WAIT ANY LONGER FOR APPLICATION FROM
MOZAMBIQUE, WHICH HE HAD HOPED TO RECEIVE FOR CONSID-
ERATION CONCURRENTLY WITH APPLICATIONS OF CAPE VERDE
AND SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE. SECRETARIAT (HERNDL) TELLS
US THAT SAITO WILL PROPOSE THAT COUNCIL MEET AUGUST 18
TO CONSIDER THE LATTER APPLICATIONS.

3. ANOTHER SUBJECT WOULD BE THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S
LETTER OF AUGUST 4 RE COORDINATION OF MIDDLE EAST
PEACEKEEPING BODIES (USUN 3671 AND 3606). SECRETARIAT
HAS JUST DISTRIBUTED AN AMENDED VERSION OF THE DRAFT
REPLY REPORTED IN USUN 3632. THE NEW TEXT (SEE BELOW)
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HAS BEEN AMENDED TO ELIMINATE THE PHRASE "PEACEKEEPING

OPERATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST" AND TO SUBSTITUTE MORE SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO OPERATIONS OF "UNTSO, UNEF, AND UNDOF." ACCORDING TO HERNDL, THESE CHANGES WERE SUGGESTED BY EGYPTIANS, WHO AFTER CONSIDERATION FOUND DRAFT REPLY OTHERWISE SATISFACTORY. HERNDL TELLS US SAITO WILL PROPOSE FORMAL MEETING OF SECURITY COUNCIL AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 15 REPEAT 15 TO DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE.

4. THIRD SUBJECT WILL BE PROPOSAL BY PRESIDENT SAITO THAT HE BE FORTHWITH AUTHORIZED ON A "NO-OBJECTION" BASIS TO REQUEST THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO SUPPLY PLANS AND COST INFORMATION FOR REARRANGING THE SECURITY COUNCIL WORK AREA IN THE SECRETARIAT BUILDING FOR IMPROVED CONVENIENCE AND EFFICIENCY. WE HAVE LITTLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THIS ISSUE. WORK AREA WITH WHICH WE ARE FAMILIAR IS IN FACT AWKWARD. WE KNOW THAT HERNDL, THE CONSERVATIVE AND HIGHLY EFFICIENT AUSTRIAN NATIONAL WHO HEADS THE SECRETARIAT SUPPORT STAFF FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL, HAS LONG URGED IMPROVEMENT IN THE WORK-SPACE, AND MAY EVEN HAVE INSTIGATED JAPANESE INITIATIVE. ANOTHER SECRETARIAT SOURCE TELLS US TO EXPECT THE PROPOSAL TO BE STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THE SMALLER MISSIONS ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AS THEY ARE MORE DEPENDENT ON SUPPORT OF HERNDL'S STAFF THAN ARE LARGER MISSIONS. WE PLAN TO EXPRESS STRONG CONCERN ABOUT ECONOMY OF PROPOSAL, AND TO RAISE NO OBJECTION TO SAITO'S PROPOSED REQUEST FOR PLANS AND COST INFORMATION IF REST OF COUNCIL STRONGLY DESIRES TO GO AHEAD.

5. TEXT OF REVISED DRAFT REPLY TO SECRETARY GENERAL'S LETTER OF AUGUST 4 FOLLOWS.

QUOTE

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER DATED 4 AUGUST 1975 CONCERNING THE FUTURE CO-ORDINATION OF THE OPERATIONS OF UNTSO, UNEF AND UNDOF IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, I WISH
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TO INFORM YOU THAT THE COUNCIL HAS GIVEN ITS CONSENT TO THE PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF MAJOR-GENERAL BENGT LILJESTRAND, AT PRESENT CHIEF OF STAFF OF UNTSO, AS COMMANDER OF UNEF.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION YOUR OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHING A CO-ORDINATING MECHANISM FOR THE ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OF UNTSO, UNEF AND UNDOF, THE SECURITY COUNCIL ALSO AGREES WITH YOUR PROPOSAL TO APPOINT

LT-GENERAL ENSIO SIILASVUO, AT PRESENT COMMANDER OF UNEF,
AS THE CHIEF CO-ORDINATOR OF UNTSO, UNEF AND UNDOF OPERATIONS
IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE COUNCIL NOTES THAT AS CHIEF CO-ORD-
INATOR, GENERAL SIILASVUO WILL CONTINUE AS NECESSARY TO DISCHARGE
HIS FUNCTIONS IN RELATION TO THE MILITARY WORKING GROUP OF
THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND
WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LIAISON AND CONTACT WITH THE PARTIES
ON IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS RELATING TO THE OPERATIONS
OF UNTSO, UNEF AND UNDOF IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT FURTHER
NOTES THAT THE THREE ABOVE-MENTIONED OPERATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST
WILL MAINTAIN THEIR OPERATIONAL IDENTITY.

ACCEPT, ETC...

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